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THE EYE BOROUGH COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1937.

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To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Eye.

Your, Worship, Aldermen and Councillors, - I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1937 to December 31st. It is in the usual form and no unusual occurrences call for any special emphasis.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area acres.	4410.
Population.	1656.
Inhabited houses	539.
Rateable Value	£7193.
Sum raised by 1d. rate.	£29.

BIRTHS.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Legitimate.	8	9	17
,, Illegitimate.	1	-	1.

Rate per 1000 - 10.8 (Rate for England 14.9)

Still Legitimate		1	1
Still Illegitimate	-	-	-

Rate per 1000 live & still births - 52.6.
,, 1000 population. - .6

DEATHS.	14.	8	22.

Rate per 1000, crude- 13.2 - corrected - 8.7.
(Rate for England - 12.4)

INFANTILE MORTALITY. (under 1 year)	2.	1	3

Rate per 1000 live births - 166.
(Rate for England - 58.)
Legitimate 2 - 117 per 1000 legitimate live births.
Illegitimate 1.

No deaths occurred from measles, whooping cough, diarrhoea in infants or puerperal sepsis. Deaths from Cancer were 2.

The population is the estimate provided by the General Register Office. The Area Comparability Factor remains the same - .66.
No illness was unusually prevalent.

PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION OF THE BOROUGH.

There is one Medical Officer of Health who is also the Medical Officer of Health of the surrounding Rural District and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health.
There is also one Sanitary Inspector who also serves the Rural District.
Hospital services are provided by the County and for infectious diseases by the Stowmarket Hospital. The Infirmary of the Public Assistance Institution is situate within the Borough. A District Nurse under the District Nurses Association resides in the Borough and also serves two outlying parishes
Ambulances are available without delay.

Tuberculosis Sanatoria are provided by the County. No clinics are held within the Borough but the M.O.H. visits all cases at home acting as Assistant County Tuberculosis Officer.
School inspection and Clinics are carried out by the M.O.H. acting as Assistant County School Medical Officer.
A Welfare Centre meets fortnightly in the Borough and is a valuable service to surrounding villages; it is the only one for a wide area.
Laboratory, Venereal and Orthopedic treatment is available at Ipswich with the collaboration of the County Medical services.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Male	Female.
Influenza.	1	-
Tuberculosis of Lungs.	2	-
Cancer	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1	1
Heart disease	2	1
Pneumonia	-	1
Other respiratory deseases		1
Digestive diseases		1
Congenital debility	2	-
Senility	5	1
Illdefined causes		1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Pneumonia 4.
Erysipelas 1.

One case of anterior polio-myelitis was notified from the County Hospital and came into the Borough but was not necessarily contracted there.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases notified:-

Respiratory 1 female aged 20.
,, 1 male aged 40.

Deaths.

Respiratory 1 male aged 8.
,, 1 male aged 40.

Five cases remain on the list at December 31st.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Progress and the promise of it in the Borough is very encouraging. The housing programme is well advanced and will supply the immediate needs. There are, however, other properties below standard and time will soon reduce them to the irreparable level when a further small undertaking will have to be faced.

The water and sewage schemes are still delayed by modifications in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations, but progress should be definite in the new year.

Milk supply is satisfactory; in addition to the accredited ones recorded last year there are now pasteurised supplies available.

Shops, workshops and food supplies are kept reasonably clean, having regard to the often old and inconvenient premises used.

I have to thank the Council for their support during the year and for the inception of a progressive policy that it will be a pleasure to assist in carrying out.

Your obedient servant,

HUBERT C. G. PEDLER.

REPORT ON THE SANITARY CONDITIONS FOR THE YEAR 1937.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Inquiry with respect to the proposed Public Water Supply was held in the Town Hall. Some oppsoition was offered to the scheme, but the Minister approved, and sanctioned the sinking of the necessary bore. This was proceeded with, but to date no report can be given as to supply. In the first instance a boring was commenced but had to be abandoned owing to the degree of tolerance from verticallity permissible under the contract being exceeded. A second boring is now in progress.

Further new property has been erected on the line of proposed main, including 12 new Council Houses. All these are being provided with underground rain water storage cisterns, but it is hoped that expedition will be given to the Mains Scheme.

SEWERS, SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

In conjunction with the Public Inquiry into the proposed Water Scheme, the Scheme for new Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for the Borough was considered. Subject to some amendments as to exclusion of surface and roof water from the sewers the scheme was approved in principle by the Ministry. This Scheme is becoming more and more an urgent necessity. New properties are being erected, with provision made, (by the laying of the necessary drains) for communication to the new sewers when laid; the Council's own new houses falling within this category.

Further complaints have been received of the nuisance caused from drainage into ditches near the highway, but even though the occupiers of the premises do endeavour, by cleaning and disinfecting, to lessen the nuisance, the position is still very unsatisfactory and the question of sewerage is an urgent one.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Through the fuller occupation of some of the larger properties in the Borough, more water closets are being installed, but in the main there is no appreciable difference in the work of night soil collection, and the disposal remains the same, that is, by ash panning.

With the advent of proper sewerage and water supply the number of closets with moveable receptacles should appreciably diminish, and if the Council decides to operate Section 47 of the Public Health Act 1936, the services of the Night Soil Cart can be entirely dispensed with.

SCAVENGING.

This work continues as in previous years, but complaint has been received of the nuisance caused by the vehicle used for the collections having an open top, allowing dust and papers to blow about. There is justification for this complaint as the men work under difficulties due to the height of the vehicle. As soon as practicable this vehicle should be replaced by one of the Low Loading Type.

No market has yet been found for the empty tins, and under present conditions burying seems the only practicable method of disposal.

MILK SUPPLY.

There have been no complaints, nor has any action, formal or informal, been necessary respecting the milk supply for the Borough.

Two new cowsheds have been erected, and these and the existing sheds are kept in a cleanly state. Bottled milk is available both from an accredited producer resident in the Borough and from an outside dairy retailing Pasteurised Milk. These together with the producers of ungraded milk give the inhabitants ample choice for their milk supply.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There has been a reduction in the number of slaughterhouses in use. One is entirely disused and one almost so. No complaint has had to be made as to slaughtering and cleanliness, and the co-operation of the butchers is very satisfactory.

Limewashing and cleansing is carried out as required.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

The Factories and Workshops on the Register are as follows:-

Bakehouses	3.	Boot & Shoe Repairer	5.
Dressmakers	4.	Printing Works	2.
Smiths	2.	Carpenters & Builders	4.
Distillery	1.	Plumber & Painter	1.

Motor Garages & Cycle Repairs 4.

No action had to be taken to enforce requirements.

HOUSING.

This year has been one of progress and 12 new cottages are in course of erection. These are to replace the nine cottages condemned and to abate overcrowding. There are still cottages remaining which cannot be made fit at a reasonable cost, but replacement today due to the high cost of labour and materials, requires careful consideration. Although the industry of the Borough is dependant upon agriculture, and many of its inhabitants are agricultural workers, the Government subsidy for cottages is less than that allowed in a Rural District.

This of necessity makes the rents of cottages higher than would otherwise be the case.

The coming year should see great advancement generally throughout the Borough.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year.
   (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts). 36.
   (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 76.

   (2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925. 13.
   (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 30.

   (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 4.

   (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 16.

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:-
   Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their officers. 11.

3. Action under Statutory Powers during Year:-
   (a) Proceedings under Secs.17,18 & 23 of Housing Act, 1930. Nil.
   (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-
   (1). Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 3.
   (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.
   (a) By owners. 3.
   (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil.

   (c) Proceedings under Secs.19 & 21 of the Housing Act 1930.
   (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made Nil.
   (2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. Nil.

   (d) Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act 1930. Nil.

I remain,
Your obedient servant,

H. AUSTIN REEVE,

Sanitary Inspector.